

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 3291 - SB 3349

February 22, 2012

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires publication of a sample ballot in a newspaper of general circulation at least five days before early voting only, rather than prior to early voting and prior to an election by the county election commission.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Decrease State Expenditures - \$135,700/FY15-16

**Decrease Local Expenditures - \$271,400/FY12-13
\$135,700/FY13-14
\$271,400/FY14-15**

Assumptions:

- The sample ballot will be published at least five days before the early voting period.
- Currently, the sample ballot is published twice before Election Day.
- The bill requires the sample ballot to be published only once.
- According to the Coordinator of Elections, counties were surveyed on the cost of publishing the sample ballot prior to the election. Based on that survey, it was determined that counties will save approximately \$135,678 per election statewide.
- In FY12-13 and FY14-15, the decrease in local expenditures is doubled because of the August and November regular elections which occur every two years. The decrease in local expenditures will be \$271,356 ($\$135,678 \times 2$) in each of these election years.
- In FY13-14, the decrease in local expenditures reflects the May 2014 county primary. The decrease in local expenditures will be \$135,678.
- In FY15-16, the decrease in state expenditures is reflected on a state level due to the Presidential Preference Primary which occurs every four years. The Presidential Preference Primary is paid for with state funds. The decrease in state expenditures will be \$135,678.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/rct